Listing of the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1 - 3. (Canceled)

4 - 37. (Canceled)

38 - 39. (Canceled)

40. (New) A method for converting a large capacity cloning vector into a herpes simplex virus (HSV)-based amplicon, said method comprising recombining:

(a) a large capacity cloning vector comprising a genomic DNA insert; and

(b) an amplicon vector comprising a herpesvirus cleavage/packaging sequence and a herpesvirus origin of replication;

thereby producing an HSV-based amplicon vector comprising said genomic DNA insert.

41. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein said herpesvirus cleavage/packaging sequence is an HSV-1 cleavage/packaging sequence.

42. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein said herpesvirus origin of replication is an HSV-1 origin of replication.

43. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein said herpesvirus cleavage/packaging sequence is an HSV-1 cleavage/packaging sequence, and said herpesvirus origin of replication is an HSV-1 origin of replication.

44. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein said amplicon vector of (b) further comprises a genetic element from Epstein-Barr virus (EBV).

45. (New) The method of claim 44, wherein said genetic element from EBV is *oriP*.

46. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein said large capacity cloning vector is a bacterial artificial chromosome (BAC), P1 phage-based vector (PAC), cosmid, yeast artificial chromosome (YAC), mammalian artificial chromosome (MAC), human artificial chromosome, or viral-based vector.

47. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein said large capacity cloning vector is a bacterial artificial chromosome (BAC).

48. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein said large capacity cloning vector is a P1 phage-based vector (PAC).

49. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein said recombining comprises site-specific recombination of (a) and (b) in the presence of a site-specific recombinase.

50. (New) The method of claim 49, wherein said site-specific recombinase is selected from the group consisting of: P1 bacteriophage CRE, yeast FLP, and yeast R recombinase.

51. (New) The method of claim 49, wherein said site-specific recombinase is P1 bacteriophage CRE.

52. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein said recombining comprises homologous recombination of (a) and (b).

53. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein said recombining comprises ligation of (a) and (b).

54. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein said genomic DNA insert is 50 to 100 kb in size.

55. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein said genomic DNA insert is 110 to 150 kb in size.

56. (New) The method of claim 40, further comprising packaging said HSV-based amplicon vector comprising said genomic DNA insert into an infectious particle.

57. (New) The method of claim 56, wherein said packaging is accomplished using a helper virus-free system.